



ACQUISITION AND
TECHNOLOGY

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES
COMMANDER IN CHIEF, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Subcontractor Single Process Initiative (SPI)

My memorandum of September 3, 1996, provided a framework for processing subcontractor SPI concept papers. Recently I sent a letter to the Presidents of the industry associations in the Council of Defense and Space Industry Associations (CODSIA) asking them to encourage prime contractors to permit their subcontractors to substitute Government accepted Single Process Initiatives (SPI) for equivalent DoD prime contract specified processes.

In order to assure our personnel are receptive to subcontractor SPI proposals, and to make the process a simple one to implement, the following procedures apply. To the extent that any prime contract processes, that are flowed down or imposed on subcontractors, are inconsistent with SPI processes accepted by the Government for use at the subcontractor's facility, prime contractors may substitute the accepted subcontractor equivalent process. Management Councils at prime and subcontractor facilities should facilitate and enable substitution of accepted subcontractor SPI processes.

Additional concept papers ordinarily are not required from the prime or subcontractor because the performance of the end item remains unchanged. In some instances, modifications to prime contracts may be necessary. Only prime contractors may change subcontracts. Prime contractors are still responsible for meeting the contract performance requirements.

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